CLAIMS

1. A sustained release composition free of food effect comprising:

(a) a core comprising verapamil; and

(b) a functional coating comprising, based on the weight of the coating, from 30 to 80% of a gastroresistant polymer and from 10 to 40% of a hydrophilic silicon dioxide.

2. The composition according to claim 1, in which the gastroresistant polymer is selected from the group consisting in uncured poly(meth)acrylic acids, cellulose and alkylcellulose-phtalates.

3. The composition according to claim 1, in which the functional coating further comprises polyethyleneglycol, present in an amount from 5 to 30% by weight, based on the total weight of the functional coating.

4. The composition according to claim 1, in which the functional coating represents from 0.5 to 6% by weight of the core weight.

5. The composition according to claim 1, in which the core comprises from 20 to 80% of active ingredient.

6. The composition according to claim 1, in which the core is comprised of granules compressed together.

7. The composition according to claim 1, which further comprises an intermediate coating.

8. The composition according to claim 7, in which the intermediate coating comprises hydroxypropylmethyl-cellulose and polyethyleneglycol.

9. A sustained release composition free of food effect comprising:

(a) a core comprising verapamil; and

(b) a functional coating comprising, based on the weight of the coating, from 30 to 80% of a gastroresistant polymer comprised of uncured poly(meth)acrylic acids and from 10 to 40% of a hydrophilic silicon dioxide.

10. The composition according to claim 9, in which the functional coating further comprises polyethyleneglycol, present in an amount from 5 to 30% by weight, based on the total weight of the functional coating.

11. A sustained release composition free of food effect comprising:

(a) a core comprising verapamil; and

(b) a functional coating comprising, based on the weight of the coating, from 30 to 80% of a gastroresistant polymer comprised of uncured poly(meth)acrylic acids, from 10 to 40% of a hydrophilic silicon dioxide and from 5 to 30% by weight of polyethyleneglycol.

12. The composition according to claim 1, providing effective release of the active ingredient for a period of at least 8 hours.

13. The composition according to claim 9, providing effective release of the active ingredient for a period of at least 8 hours.

14. The composition according to claim 11, providing effective release of the active ingredient for a period of at least 8 hours.

Sub A4

15. A process for alleviating food effect in a pharmaceutical composition, comprising the step of coating a core comprising verapamil with a functional coating comprising, based on the weight of the coating, from 30 to 80% of a gastroresistant polymer and from 10 to 40% of an hydrophilic silicon dioxide.

16. The process of claim 15, in which the composition is as defined in claim 1.

17. The process of claim 15, in which the composition is as defined in claim 9.

18. The process of claim 15, in which the composition is as defined in claim 11.

Add A5

Add B6

Add C1